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MEET THE INDIAN IN SOUTH AFRICA

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A PICTORIAL SURVEY

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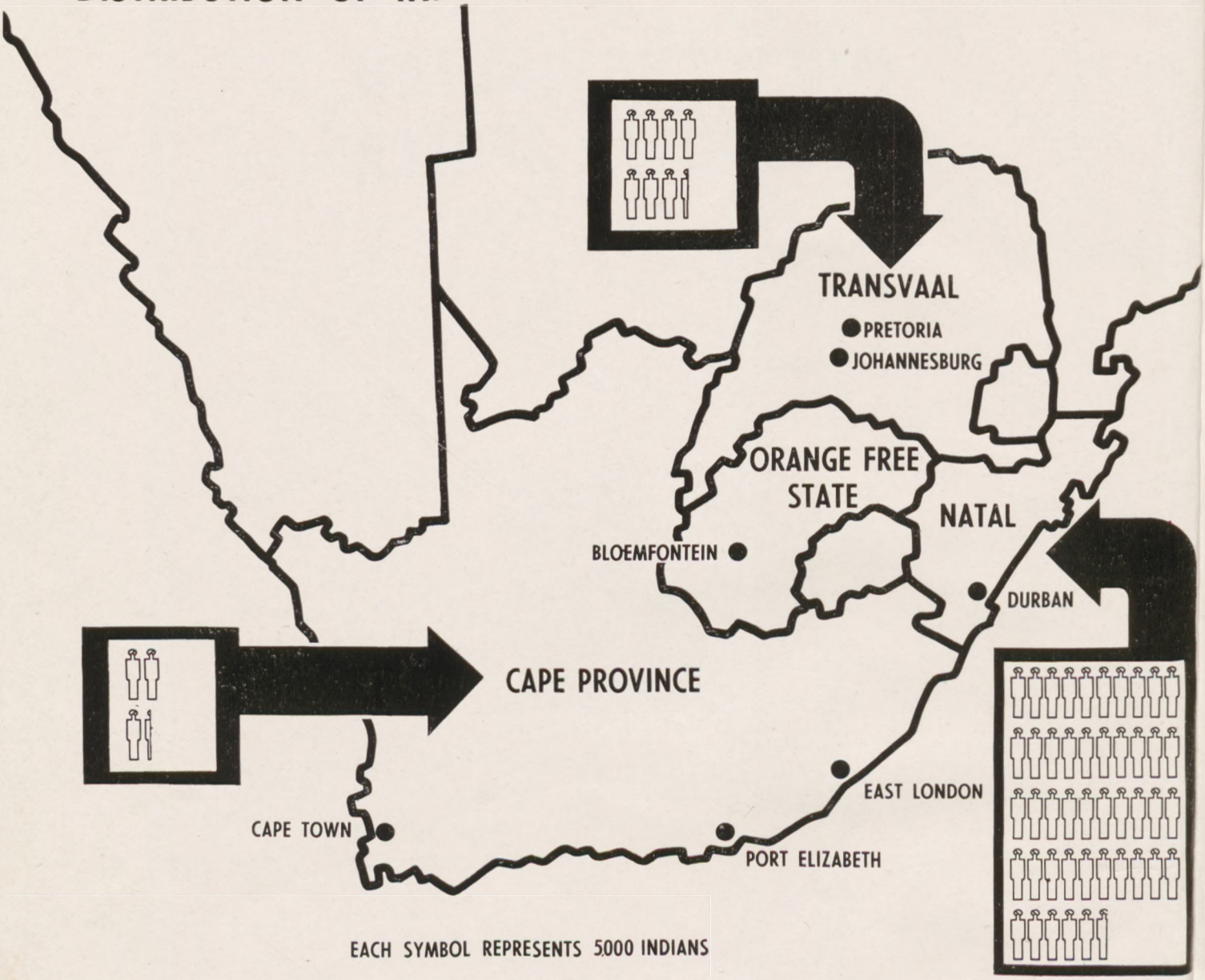
DISTRIBUTION OF INDIANS IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 5000 INDIANS

THE POPULATION OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. (1946)

EUROPEAN

NATIVE

COLOURED

INDIAN

EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 200,000 PERSONS

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Introduction

Freed from the rigid caste system and conditions of semi-starvation in the thickly populated districts of India, from which they were recruited, thousands of Indians—mostly "Untouchables" and "Coolies"—came to Natal between 1860 *and* 1911 *to work as labourers on the sugar estates, the railways, coal mines and tea plantations. In their wake came traders and craftsmen who, with the descendants of the immigrants, form the South African Indian population of* 285,260 (1946 *Census figure*).

They thrived and became prosperous as agriculturists, merchants, builders, brokers, doctors, lawyers and in numerous other professions and vocations. All the amenities of civilized life are open to them. They have the use of the Durban City Hall, have the exclusive use of a section of the beach front, their own sports grounds and their own cultural and religious institutions.

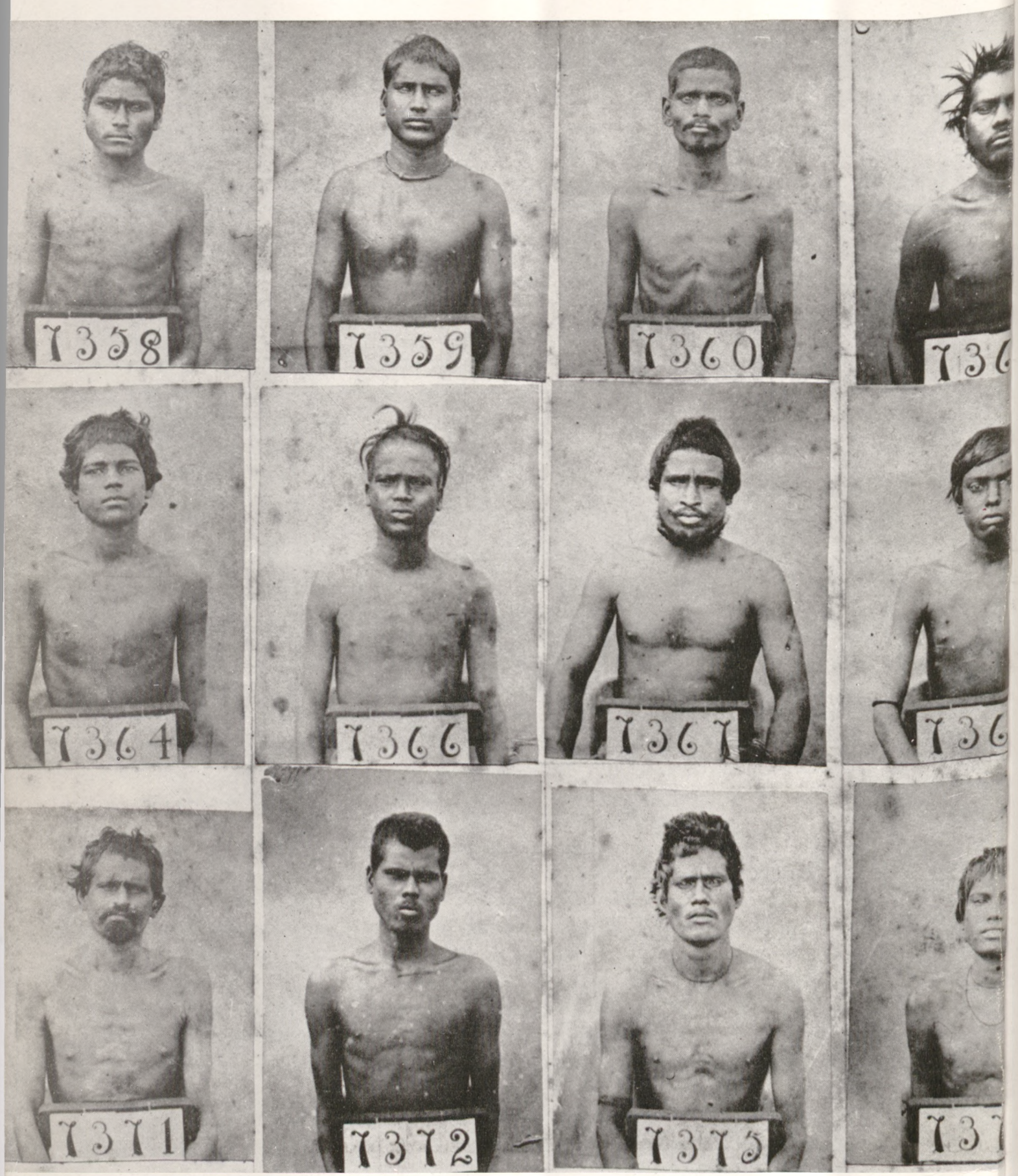
They are entitled to old-age pensions, blind pensions, disability grants and family allowances. Their sick are cared for. They have their own cinemas. They are being housed decently—out of public funds where necessary to eliminate the menace of the unhygienic shacks which they build for themselves. Increasing educational facilities—largely free—are being provided.

Some of them, particularly during the years of the war, used the wealth they had acquired (supplemented in some cases by loans from financial institutions) to buy up, on a large scale, immovable property in predominantly European areas. They took occupation of the properties they had bought—projecting their oriental way of life into the midst of the western atmosphere of the districts into which they moved. It is not to be wondered at that this caused friction between the two groups of the population. With the object of preserving harmony and removing the primary cause of the friction, a law (The Asiatic Land Tenure and Representation of Indians Act)was passed which controlled land transactions between the two races by requiring that they should first be approved by an impartial Board, except in a number of large areas which were exempted from such control. Indians and Europeans are equally represented on the Board, and a member of the Judiciary is Chairman.

The claim by Indian propagandists that, in consequence of this law, the Indian population of South Africa is oppressed and persecuted is ridiculous in the extreme, for it applies equally to both races.

Pictures in this brochure, taken two years after the passage of the Act, graphically show the progress, the wealth, the fundamental human rights which South African Indians enjoy.

Most of the photographs were taken in Durban and environs, since more than half of the Indians in Natal, and nearly a third of the entire population, are concentrated in this area.



This picture, taken from official records, shows some of the 152,641 *men, women and children who between* 1860 *and* 1911 *left conditions of semi-starvation for a better life.*

They had the right, on the expiry of their contracts, to return to India at no cost to themselves, but most of them preferred to remain in a land where there was no caste distinction, where there was no lack of opportunity and where their own enterprise and initiative could assure their welfare, prosperity and happiness.

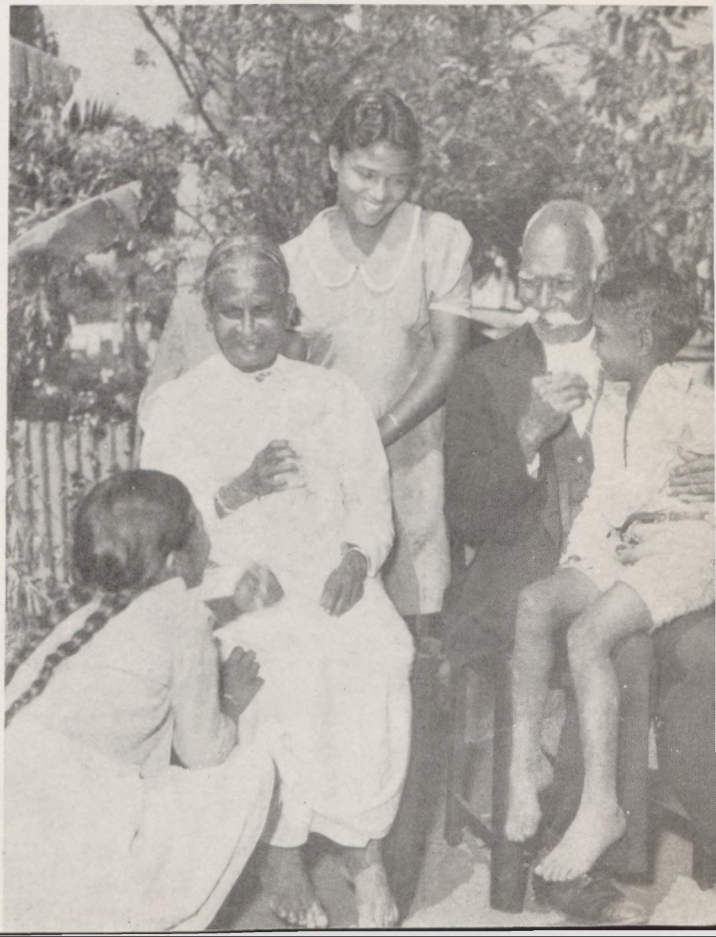
Early indentured Indians who came to South Africa were "Asiatic labourers from densely populated areas in India belonging to the lowest classes who had been living in a state of semi-starvation."

Mahatma Gandhi.

Pronnen came to South Africa as an indentured labourer in the s.s. Congella on 18th August, 1890 to work on the sugar estate of Mr. C. P. Reynolds, at Umzinto, Natal South Coast. He preferred to remain in Natal when his contract expired. Now 78, he enjoys an old-age pension from the Government and is staying with his wife in his son's own home near Durban.

The old couple, like hundreds of others, have just been to the Protector of Indian Immigrants in Durban to apply for maintenance grants for their five grandchildren, whose mother had died and whose father is being treated in a Government hospital for tuberculosis.

Here they are seen in their garden where they talk about their 58 years in Natal. With them, in the other picture, are three of their grandchildren.



A typical Indian mother with children belonging to the labouring class—descendants of the indentured labourers who spread over the coast lands of Natal and multiplied.

Some remained on the land....

Another who has continued to till the soil, one of the many hundreds of Indians who have a monopoly of the vegetable growing for Durban's early morning market. These peasant farmers, most of whom through energy and enterprise own their own land, bring their produce to the market in their spring carts and motor lorries and do a brisk trade with all races.

Thousands of Indians in South Africa have switched from the land to commerce, industry and the professions. Here, in a Durban street, are some of them.

....others gravitated to the towns

Motor cars are much in evidence at any Indian gathering and are here seen waiting for families whom they have brought to a temple.

Shacks, most of them built by Indians and Natives on Indian-owned land, are situated in the outer areas of Greater Durban. Recognizing the menace of these shacks to public health, and the need for thousands of cheap sub-economic homes for the lower income groups, the various public authorities are confronted, as in other parts of the world, with an immense problem.

A post-war development programme in Durban alone provides for 17,600 homes for Indians at a cost to public funds of £12,368,000. Several hundred homes have already been built and let at a rental of only 15s. a month. Losses are borne jointly by the State and the municipality—by far the greater part of this burden being carried by the European population.

Cheek by jowl with this Indian shack are well-built Indian homes. Indians enjoy the same facilities as Europeans for building economic homes for themselves. They can get from the Durban Municipality loans at 3½ per cent. on 95 per cent. of the cost of the land and buildings.

Indian built on Indian-owned land

As in all countries where there are peasants, there are many shacks like these—and worse—which can be eliminated only when more homes can be built. There are similar problems with poor whites and natives. In South Africa there is an acute shortage of houses for all races.

At the Tongaat Sugar Estate on the Natal North Coast these little homes of two rooms with a kitchen and bathroom are also let at 15s. a month to employees.

Many Indians who had previously lived in crowded slums or in shacks are now happily occupying these attractive and comfortable homes at Springfield, in spite of early opposition by Indian political leaders who considered that the homes constituted segregation.

Sixteen years ago the Durban City Council built 20 houses for Europeans in the area bounded by Mansfield Road, the School and Winterton Walk. The houses are no longer confined to European ownership and occupation. A number of the houses have already been bought by Indians, and here a group of them is seen inspecting a sale notice outside another house.

The Cause of Racial Disharmony

As this pictorial survey shows, every opportunity is afforded the Indian Community to progress in South Africa, to follow their own way of life, their cultures and religions, to work and play, to receive education and to participate in the social welfare benefits applicable to all races.

All the European wants is the maintenance of the western character of the predominantly European areas which his forefathers developed, and not to see them rapidly being changed (as they have been changed in many parts of the country) to the oriental way of life. Many attempts at a voluntary agreement have failed. Instead of harmony there has been friction.

It was the purchase of numerous attractive homes by Indians in predominantly European areas in Durban that was mainly the cause of the legislation to control further acquisition and occupation of property.

In the area bounded by Haden Road, Gladys Road, Currie Road, Fourth Avenue and the lower portion of Currie Road—a select Durban European residential area—no fewer than 133 former European homes have been taken over by Indians. This example of penetration caused protests and a demand for Government action. The most serious penetration took place after the first Broome Commission had reported. Before the Commission sat in 1942 there were 26 sub-divisions in Indian ownership. Suddenly, at the height of the recent War, the Indians set about making wholesale purchases and, within a short time, acquired another 106 properties in this small area before the Asiatic Land Tenure Act became law and stopped further encroachment. Though the rateable value of these properties is £281,000, the present-day market value is estimated at £700,000.

Durban consists of 44,814 acres. Within these boundaries the scheduled areas owned almost entirely by Indians or capable ultimately of being completely owned by them, total 13,891 acres, or 31 per cent. of the land in the city.

But the Indians also own 2,701 acres of land in the controlled or predominantly European areas with a rateable value of £3,556,170 and an estimated market value of at least £10,000,000.

Altogether, Indians own about 37 per cent. of the land in Greater Durban. The rest of the land includes large tracts belonging to the Government, the Natal Provincial Administration and the Municipality.

High on the Berea, Durban, in the heart of a select European residential area and overlooking the City and the Bay, stands this attractive home at the corner of Currie and Marriott Roads. It is owned and occupied by an Indian, Esmail Paruk.

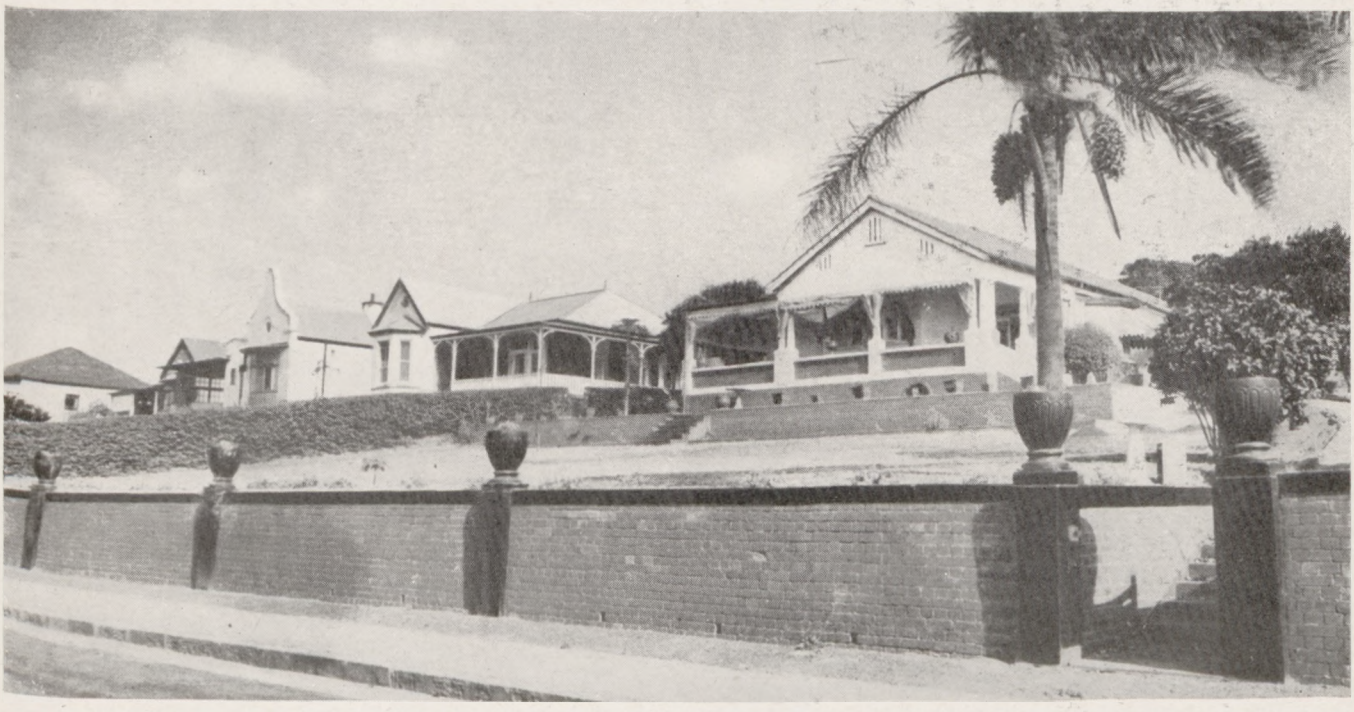
A former American Consul, Mr. J. Corrigan, occupied this stately residence at 92 Goble Road, Durban, which is now occupied by an Indian, Mr. A. B. Moosa. After the residence had been purchased, Mr. Corrigan was given notice to vacate the property.

Both these homes in Currie Road, Durban, are owned by Indians, the one on the left by the Bassa Land and Estate Company, Ltd., and the one on the right by P. R. Singh and P. B. Singh.

A storm of protest by Europeans resulted from the purchase by Indians of this fine residence at 78 Goble Road, Durban. A permit for Indians to occupy the house has been refused because this would constitute further encroachment into a European area. The owners nevertheless use the tennis court.

Once European . . . Now Indian

The purchase of homes such as these was a major cause of the public unrest which preceded the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act. Though the Act prevents further encroachment by Asiatics into the areas affected, the status quo remains and owners enjoy complete freedom. Under the law claimed to be oppressive the Indian owners are free to live in their homes as long as they please, or to dispose of them to their compatriots, free of any restrictions.



Bought and occupied by Indians in Eleventh Avenue, Durban, these attractive homes are owned by wealthy Indian merchants and professional men in the heart of the predominantly European residential area.

An Indian professional man, Dr. K. M. Seedat, owns and occupies this home at 101 Eleventh Avenue, Durban, in what was once a completely European residential area.

Two adjoining Indian residences, 306 and 308 Cowey Road, in the centre of the European area, the purchase of one leading to the sale of the other.

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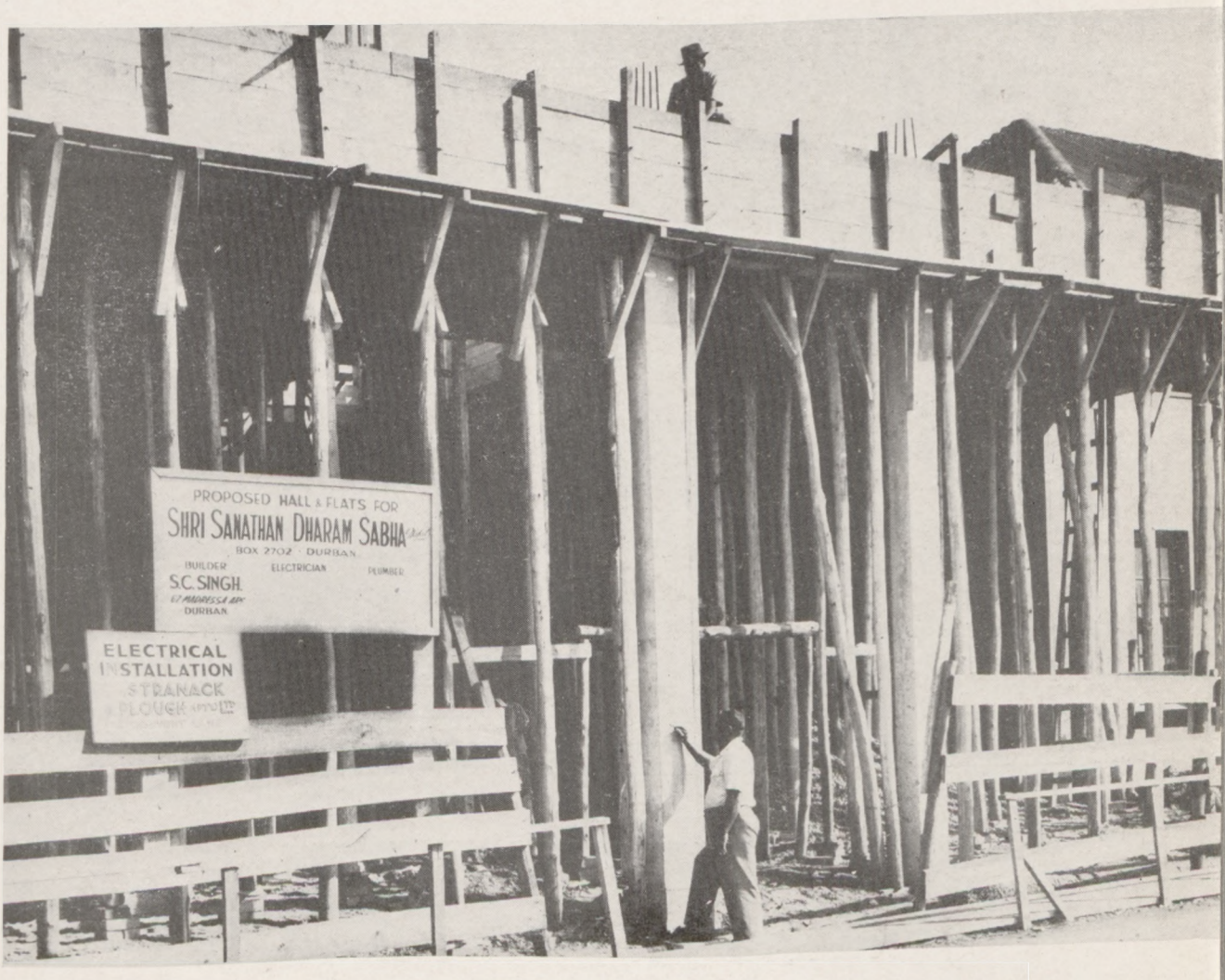
Investment in Building

Hundreds of thousands of pounds have been invested by Indians in the acquisition and building of large blocks of flats both for Indian and European occupation. Many Indians decline, for religious and other reasons, all forms of investment that involve lending money at interest, and most of them regard the purchase of immovable property as the only desirable investment other than trade.



Above: A building consisting of a hall and flats under construction in Umgeni Road, Durban, for Indians. Contractor is an Indian, Mr. S. C. Singh. Engaged on this work are Indian building artisans who receive the same wages as those paid to Europeans.

Left: Hoosen's Building, an Indian-owned eleven-storey block of flats, shops and professional apartments, has just been completed by an Indian building contractor in the middle of Durban at a cost of more than £80,000.

Several blocks of residential flats, similar to Bodasing's Buildings in Grey Street, Durban, have been built by Indians and many of them are occupied by Indian tenants. There is no restriction—except by-laws which apply to all races—against the building of flats by Europeans or Indians. Some magnificent buildings in the most select areas of Durban are owned by Indians.

Mr. A. K. Hoosen, managing director of an Indian company which is building an 11-storey skyscraper for European ex-servicemen in Berea Road, Durban, at a cost of £80,000.

An Indian hotel and restaurant in Grey Street, Durban. The Durban Liquor Licensing Board has granted an Indian, Subbiah, conditional authority for a liquor licence for a luxury hotel which will cater for Indians and cost about £80,000.

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Collection Name: Hassim Seedat Collection, 1905-1961

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House of Hussian Buccus, an Indian, at the corner of Bayview Road and Old Mission Road in a Durban suburb. Overlooking the city and with harbour views, this house has an estimated market value of £7,000.

Homes built by Indians

Another fine residence overlooking the harbour, owned and occupied by an Indian. Many of the prosperous merchants and traders with homes such as these have large businesses with customers of all races.

This aerial map, with Durban harbour in the background, gives a graphic idea of the considerable Indian ownership in the business heart of the city. The photograph, the marked portions of which are Indian-owned, shows the full length of Grey Street, which is the main shopping centre for Indians, close to the City Hall and in juxtaposition to the biggest European-owned establishments. Indians own big blocks of flats, theatres, factories and a variety of businesses. Many fine and valuable shops, closer to the civic centre but not in this photograph, are also owned by Indians. In many parts of Natal, Indians have a tight grip on trade.

Activity in a Durban Indian business quarter.

The Indian shopping centre of Durban is in Grey Street, close to the fashionable European shops of West Street. Indian buildings like these often bear the unmistakable stamp of Eastern design.

Typical Indian business houses in the main Indian commercial centre in Durban.

Another Indian business in a Durban arcade.

This Indian merchant—established in trade in Durban for half a century—is conducting a monster sale to celebrate the anniversary.

Transport

One of the flourishing Indian businesses, particularly in Durban, is the transport of non-Europeans. At the transport centre—a £23,000 new centre is proposed—buses take on and put off thousands of Native and Indian passengers. Indians have an almost entire monopoly of the privately-owned fleet of buses, though the Durban Corporation sets aside accommodation in its own buses for the use of non-Europeans.

Recent statistics showed that Indians :—

(1) owned more than 1,000 of the latest model motor cars in Durban ; (2) 21·7 per cent. of the licensed trade vehicles ; (3) 44·7 per cent. of the taxis ; and (4) 58 per cent. of the omnibuses.

Non-European passengers leaving Indian-owned buses which have brought them to the traffic centre in Durban.

Indians in South Africa have amassed fortunes. The Kajee Family Trust has been raised to £250,000, for instance, as a result of the will of Mr. A. I. Kajee, a former prominent South African Indian leader who died this year. Mr. Kajee, from a struggling shop assistant became head of a business with an annual cash turnover of £500,000. He left £105,702.

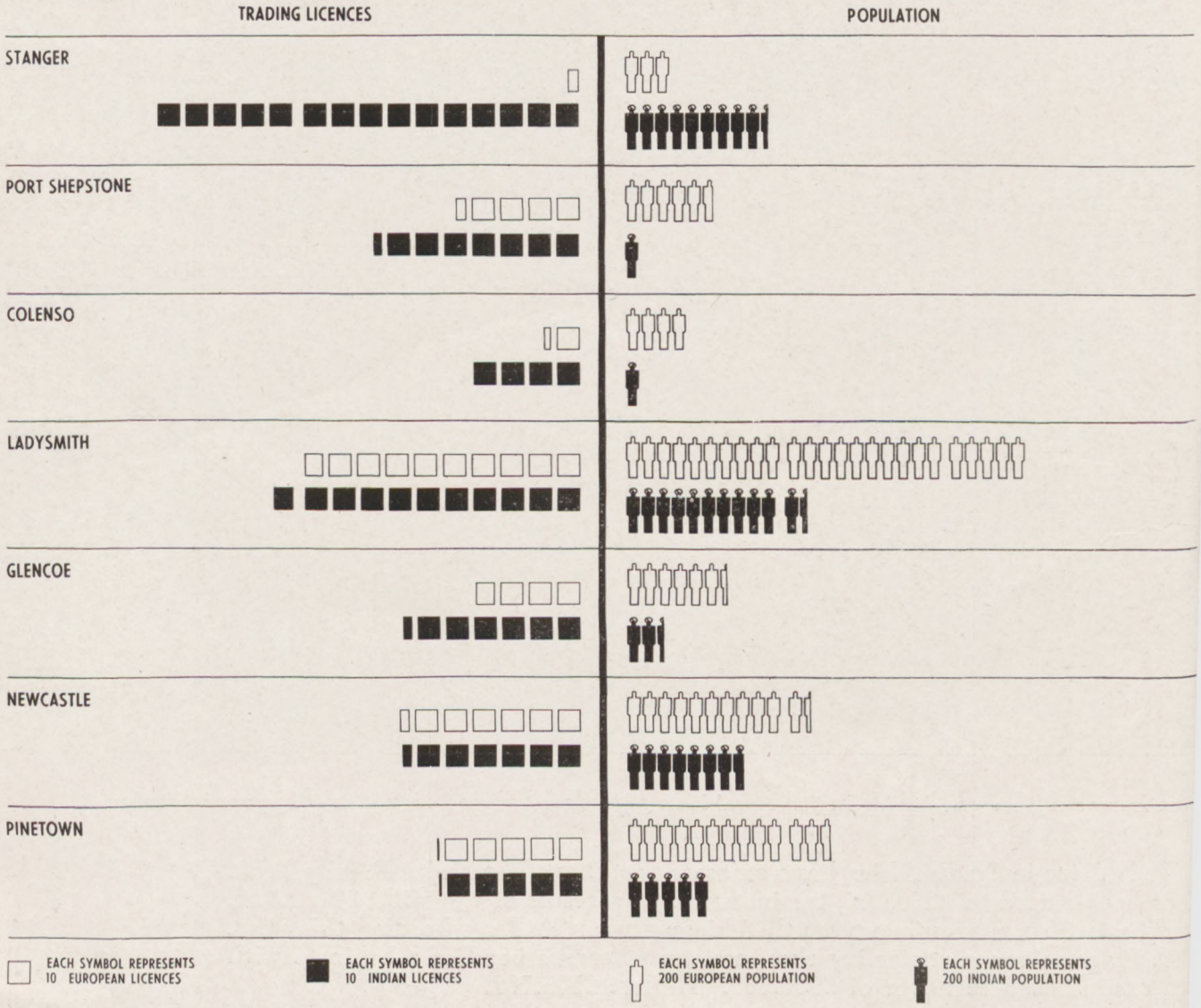
Trade

Indian traders, because of their lower standard of living, and ability to cut prices to catch the trade, have to a great extent ousted European traders in the country areas. In some places European traders have all but disappeared.

Indians (population 120,241) hold more trading licences in Durban than Europeans (population 128,217)—total of 4,032 against 3,513. They have licences for 1,219 general dealers shops, 173 restaurants, 22 motor garages, 493 fresh produce dealers, 77 butchers, 286 mineral water dealers, five bakers, 13 eating-house keepers, 106 laundry businesses, 1,596 pedlars and 42 hawkers.

In Pietermaritzburg, capital of Natal, Indians (population 11,605) hold 532 licences compared with 681 by Europeans (population 111,228).

TRADING LICENCES HELD BY EUROPEANS AND INDIANS IN NATAL RURAL AREAS



One of the main streets in Stanger, Natal, where nearly all the businesses are Indian-owned.

Although future acquisitions of property by Asiatics are subject to Government control, existing Indian business and residential premises in the European areas of Durban remain.

Working on their large vegetable plot in the outskirts of Durban are these two peasants. Soon their cabbages will be big enough to be sold on the morning market. In the background can be seen the shanties in which they live, as do peasants in all parts of the world.

The Market Gardeners of Natal

Indian peasants, whose forefathers were imported mainly to assist the development of sugar plantations in Natal, have taken extremely kindly to the South African soil. Thousands of them, through energy and enterprise, now own their own plots of land, some large, others small. On them they cultivate their vegetables, bananas and pineapples to such an extent that they monopolise market gardening and supply their produce to all races and the ships that call at Durban from all parts of the world. Many sugar cane farms are owned by Indians.

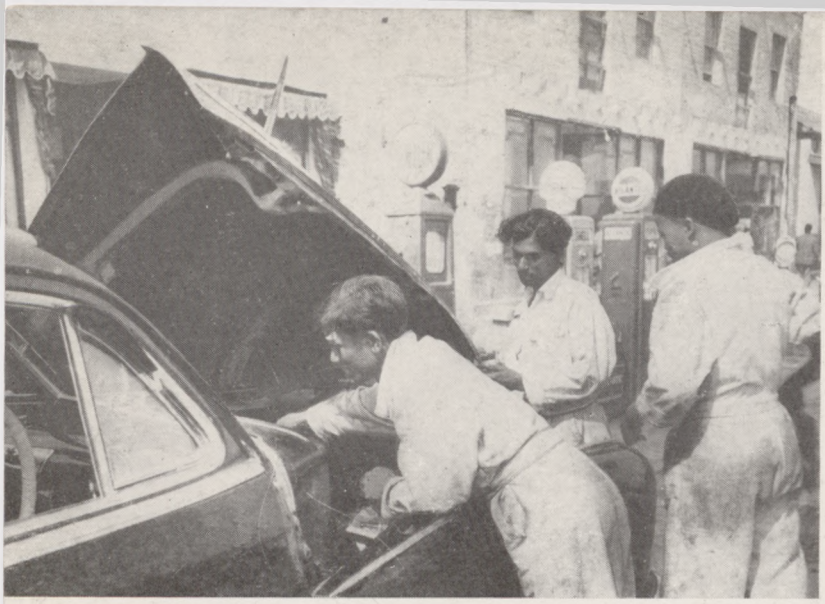
Large tracts of land like this, suitable for vegetable production, are fully exploited by Indian peasants near Durban.

As their forefathers produced from the soil of India, so thousands of the peasant type have continued to cultivate their own plots of land in South Africa.

Flowers for sale in the markets and streets of Durban are grown in Indian gardens and small holdings.

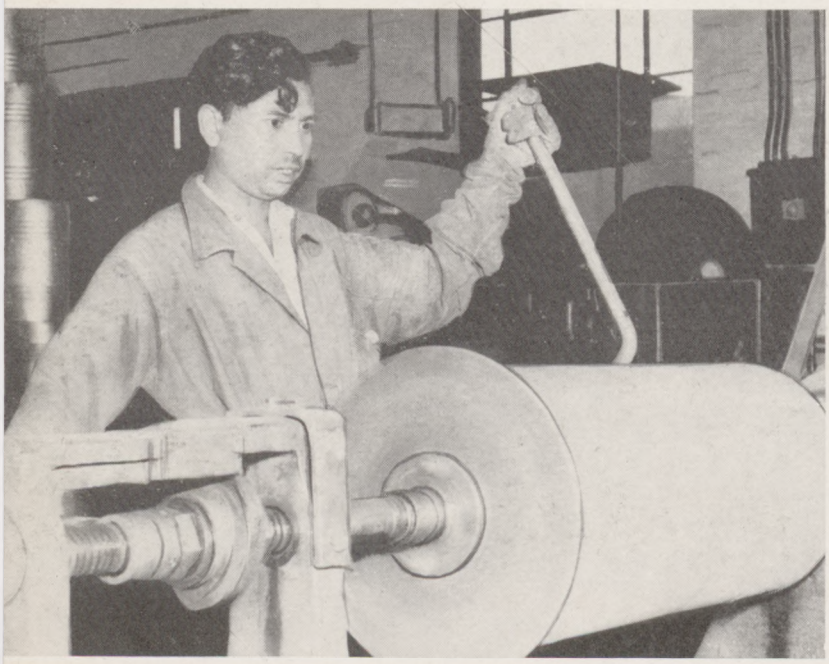
Mr. K. Govinder has a small oil engine to help irrigate his market garden at Sea Cow Lake near Durban.

Indian peasants have a large squatters' market adjoining the European market at Durban where they display their fruit and vegetables and do a thriving trade with all races. Here are two typical scenes at the Indian Squatters' Market where housewives replenish their supplies and Indian produce dealers make purchases from the peasants for their shops.



Motor mechanics.

Shirt makers.



Metal worker.

Photographer's assistant.

Hotel stewards and barmen.

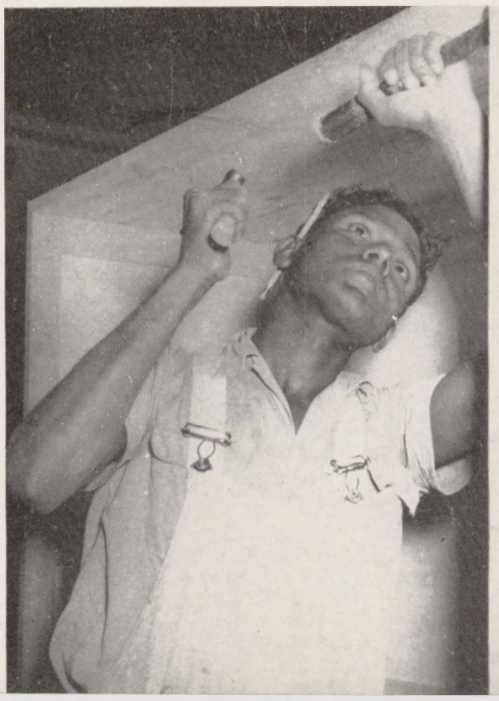
School teachers.

Descendants of the poor Indian peasants are now found in all walks of life in South Africa.

Indians have prospered in their commercial undertakings and many of the wealthy own motor cars and are driven by Native chauffeurs. Here a de luxe motor car stands outside an Indian firm of fresh produce dealers in Durban, known as the "Potato Kings."

Indian women hawkers like this are a typical sight in Natal towns. From the Indian markets, where they buy their selection of fruit and vegetables, they go their rounds with basket on head to the residential areas, mostly to European housewives.

Mr. C. A. C. Sassim is the director of one of the largest Indian-owned clothing manufacturing firms in the Unio His firm employs about 50 non-European girls at an average wage scale of about £5 a week each.



Indian craftsmen, employed in Indian-owned furnit factories, produce some of the finest furniture in South Afr Here is a cabinet-maker at work in a Natal factory.

Industrial Development

Modern factories have been set up by Indians in South Africa, particularly in Natal.

Recent statistics of industrial establishments show that there are 428 working proprietors, 177 managers, accountants and salaried staff, and 16,622 Indian employees in secondary industry in South Africa. Of a grand total of 17,238, nearly 16,000 work in Natal, 960 in the Transvaal, and 350 in the Cape. In 1939, salaries and wages paid to Indians in industry totalled £896,000. In 1946 the wage bill was £2,780,000.

These figures do not include the thousands of market gardeners, the thousands in the catering trade, those in municipal employ and in the sugar industry.

Indian industrialists and employees are spread over a large variety of industry. More than 5,000 are engaged in the production of foodstuffs and tobacco, 4,433 on clothing and fabrics, 1,488 on leather work, 914 on paint and fertilizers, 919 on furniture and upholstery, 741 on books, paper printing and engraving, 1,207 on metal engineering and hundreds in the processing of stone, raw materials, glass, ship-building, heat and power and surgical and dental instruments.

With rare exceptions all industries are governed by wage-fixing regulations and there is no differentiation or discrimination on the basis of race or colour. Such discrimination is forbidden by law.

A modern Indian industry at Jacobs, Natal—the Simplex furniture factory.

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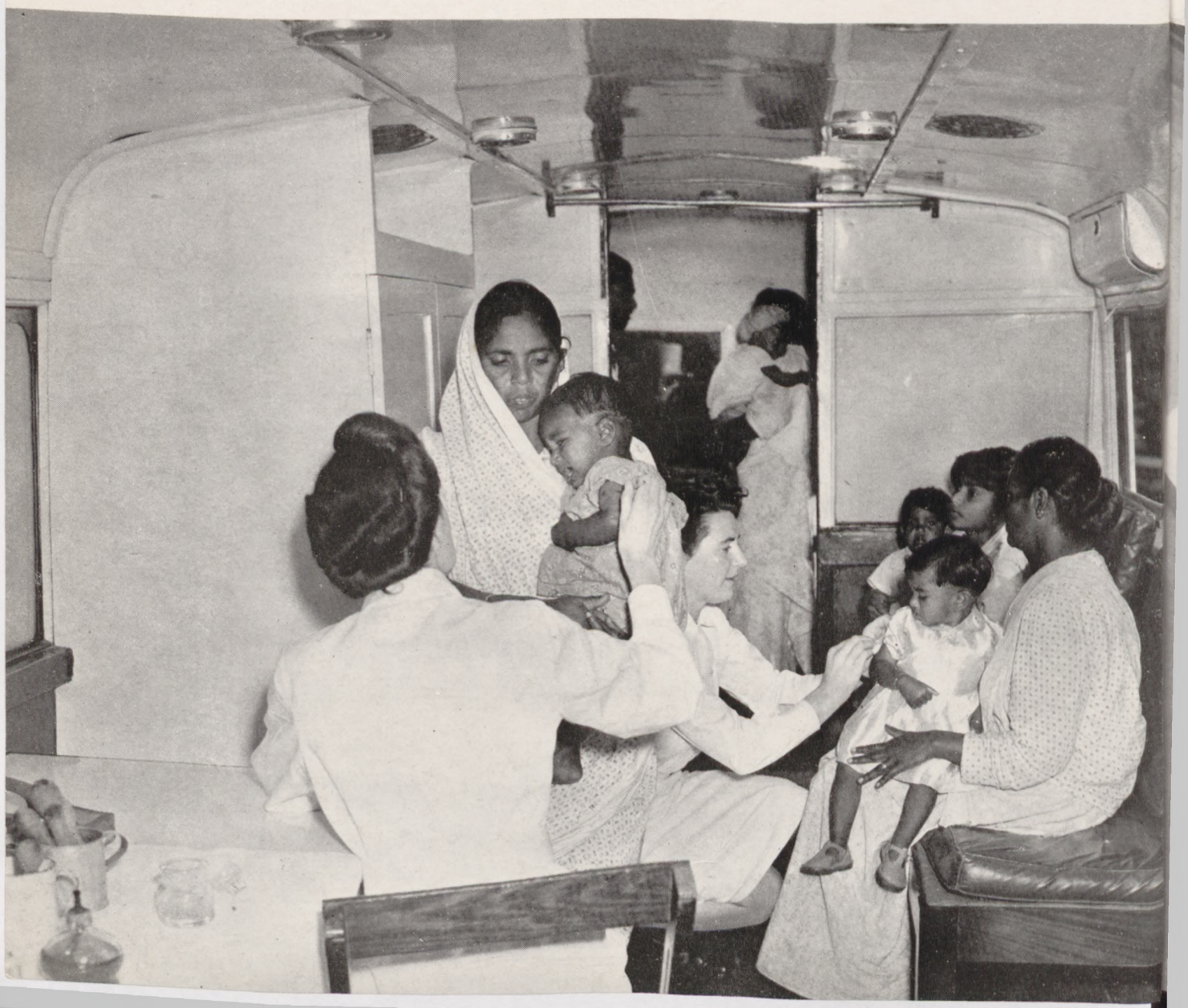
Against the oriental background o this Hindu temple on the outskirts o Durban, mothers and children await thei turn during the visit of the City Healt Department's mobile health clinic.

A fleet of these vans operates in a parts of the city and the Indian communit in their thousands benefit from their fr service.

Health leads to Happiness

One of the main reasons why the death-rate of Indians in South Africa—particularly the infantile mortality rate—is so much less than it is in India is to be found in the comprehensive health services provided by public authorities in South Africa. In Durban—centre of the biggest Indian population in South Africa—Indian midwives are trained, families are visited to be given practical advice on health problems, a free immunization service is given, there are hospitals and tuberculosis control.

Inside this mobile health clinic, qualified health assistants examine children, give advice on feeding, treat minor ailments and refer sick babies to hospital.



Asiatic Vital Statistics

	Birth Rate.		Death Rate.	
	Natal.	*Whole Union.*	*Natal.*	*Whole Union.*
Asiatics ..	37·0	37·1	13·6	13·4
Europeans ..	23·3	26·9	9·5	8·7
Coloured ..	—	44·0	—	22·4

The birth rate in other countries is as follows :—

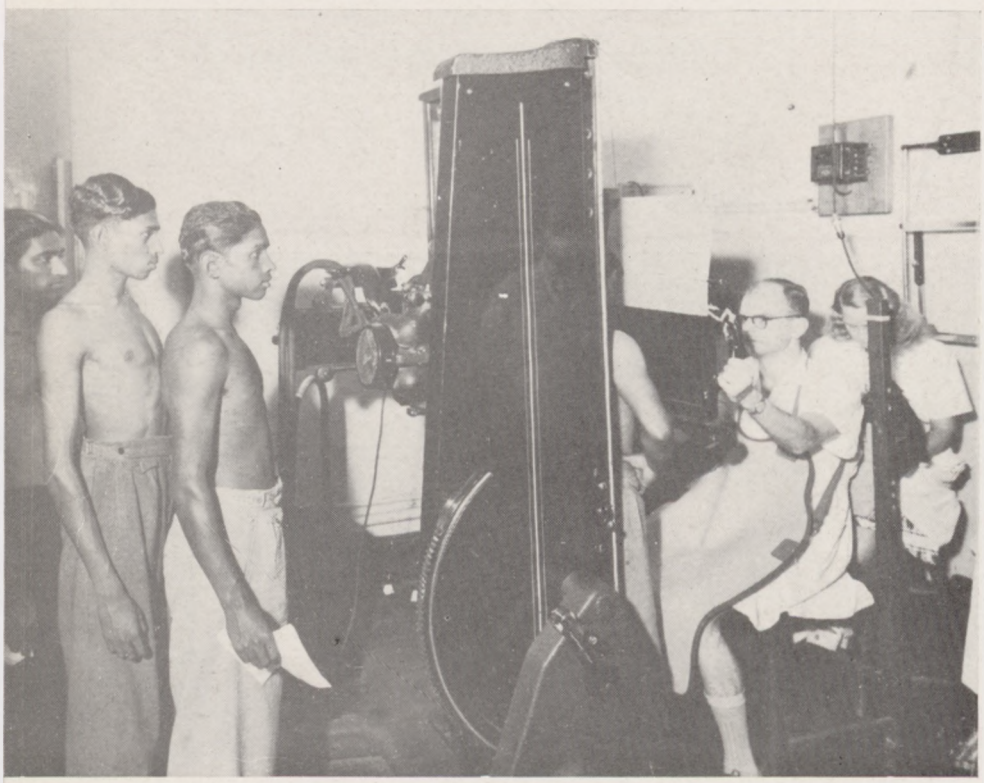
Australia	23·7
England and Wales	19·1
France	20·6
Italy	22·6
Japan	26·5
New Zealand	25·2
U.S.A.	23·3
India	33·0

Asiatics in Natal under the age of 16 years total 115,500.

Asiatics in Natal over the age of 16 years total 116,817.

Health assistants, including Indians and Natives, listening to a lecture at Springfield Hospital.

Here a weekly clinic is being conducted by Indian health assistants at the Magazine Barracks, Durban. Mothers are encouraged to bring their children to the clinic for health appraisal and education, and talks on hygiene are given to groups of mothers.



All Durban Indian residents, irrespective of financial circumstances, receive free treatment in respect of any infectious disease, including tuberculosis and venereal disease. This photograph shows Indian patients being screened for tuberculosis at the McCord Hospital. During 1945-46, 4,885 contacts were screened, tested or X-rayed, and 1,080 Indians were cared for in hospital.

Indian patients are given every possible care in King Edward VIII Hospital, Durban. It was visitors' day when the photographer took this picture of an old Indian woman. Beside her is a Zulu nurse.

Loudspeaker vans are sent out by the Durban City Health Department into the densely-populated outlying areas in support of immunisation. Mothers are urged to bring their babies for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and for vaccination against smallpox. In this picture an Indian health assistant is distributing pamphlets explaining that immunisation protects against disease.

One of the biggest hospitals in the Southern hemisphere is the King Edward VIII Hospital for non-Europeans at Congella, Durban. Here is part of the Indian wing.

An Indian child is being examined at the Springfield Hospital in Durban. Few Indian girls have taken to the nursing profession because of the traditional prejudices of their people against nursing, so that in Natal the Indian community has to rely mainly on European and Zulu nurses to staff their hospitals.

This imposing picture shows the entrance to Sastri College, a Government boys' high sc and a training centre for Indian teachers. Numbers of young Indian students are taking university courses here at present, pending the completion of new extensions to University of Natal at Wentworth, on the outskirts of Durban.

A motor car calls for an Indian schoolgirl when her lessons for the day are over.

Educational Facilities

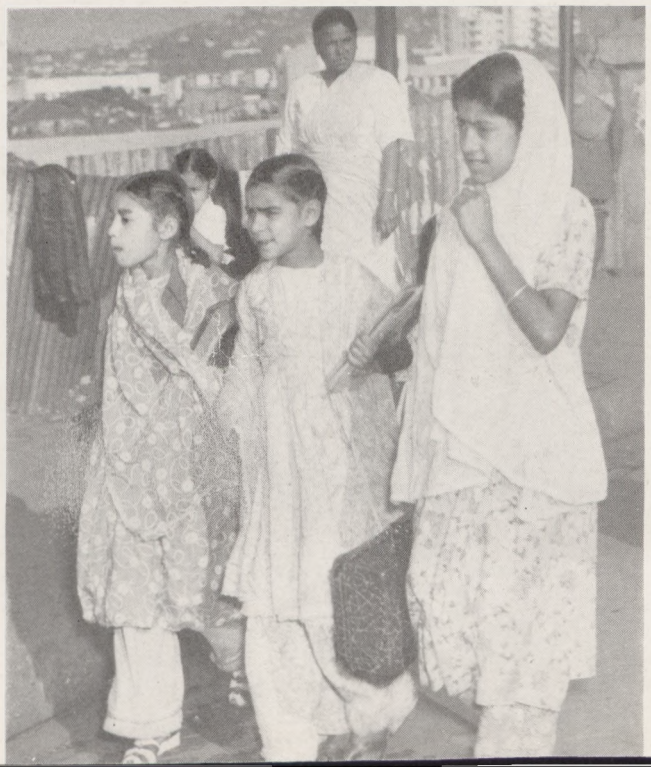
Amazing progress has been made in the education of Indians. In 1922 the Government spent £25,000 in Natal. The figure for the year 1948-49 is £513,419.

In 26 years the enrolment in primary and secondary schools has risen from 8,000 to 37,923 and the number of teachers from 132 to 1,155. There are 150 Government and Government-aided schools.

About three-quarters of the Indians in Natal receive free education.

Every school day 36,000 Indian children receive free meals at a cost of £79,000 a year. There is an anxiety to provide more facilities, but there is an acute shortage of teachers, and buildings without teachers serve no purpose. Even though teachers and accommodation are still scarce it can be stated without fear of contradiction that the percentage of literacy, the general standard of Indian teachers and the percentage of children of school-going age are much higher in South Africa than in India itself.

Indians have the opportunity of receiving the highest education in the land. In 1946, eight Indian men and one Indian woman graduated in Natal, and one Bantu. In 1947 the number increased to 19 Indian men, one woman, one Coloured and seven Bantu ; in addition one Indian and one Bantu were awarded their Master degrees. In 1948 there were 24 Indian successes and four Bantu, but two Indians and two Bantu also took their Master of Arts Degrees. The total university enrolment in Natal this year is 249 Indians, 10 Coloureds and 71 Bantu.



Indian children on their way to a Durban school.

Children about to enter a religious school on the outskirts of Durban. There are numbers of private and Government-aided schools in South Africa.

Schoolgirls at a Government school in Durban watch the progress of a basketball game.

Part of a big class of Indian boys and girls in a Durban classroom. Indian organisations are clamouring for more schools as there are still thousands awaiting education in spite of phenomenal progress in recent years. In Natal there are no fewer than 115,500 Indians under the age of 16 years. Indians over the age of 16 total 16,817.

Indian children romping in the playgrounds of their Durban school during a playtime break.

School children of all races in South African schools receive one free meal a day to safegu the health of the younger generation. In Natal alone 36,000 Indian children receive free meals cost to the Provincial Administration of £79,000 a year. Here Indian children at a Durban sc are completing a substantial midday meal of curry and rice.

Social Welfare

Social Welfare activities in South Africa are regarded as of such importance as to warrant a separate Department of Social Welfare, presided over by a Cabinet Minister.

Branch social welfare officers and child welfare societies, with assistance from the magistrates, are not in any way bound by considerations of colour. The Department's activities are non-racial and non-sectarian. Its doors are open to all who are in need.

In July, 1948, about 10,000 Indians in Natal alone received the following social benefits :—

Old Age Pensions	4,793
Blind Pensions	144
Maintenance Grants	3,404
Disability Grants	1,505

In Durban, at the offices of the Protector of Indian Immigrants, social welfare payments aggregate about £200,000 a year.

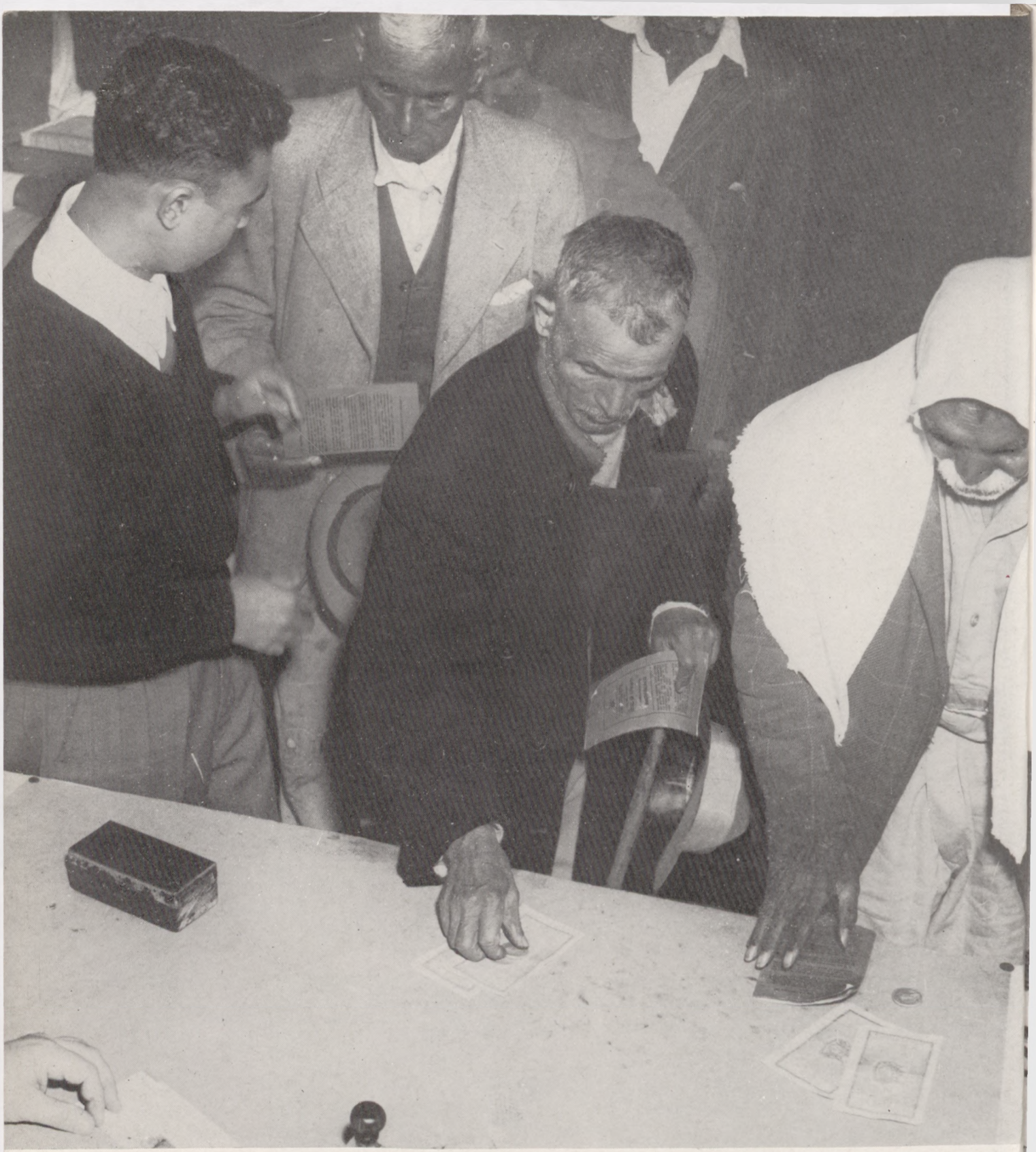
Family allowances—a social security measure applicable to all races—were paid during the year ended 31st March, 1948, to 1,603 Indian families.

Indians in their old age have no fear of want. Here are two peasants, who came to South Africa under the indentured labour scheme, at the offices of the Protector of Indian Immigrants, where all social problems are sympathetically handled.

Employees of all races who may have the misfortune to be out of work temporarily are pa unemployment insurance money by the Department of Labour. In the picture above Indi men are waiting their turn, while below Indian women employees are receiving their mone which enables them to carry on until work is available again.

Every month Indian Old Age Pensioners queue up at the office of the Protector of Indian Immigrants in Durban to receive pensions which mean so much to them in their old age.

Indian women are not forgotten in their old age and are here seen receiving pensions to assist them in the twilight of their years.



South Africa does not forget its veterans who have made their contribution to the progress of the country.

Indians, like Europeans, enjoy Old Age and Blind pensions. Every month nearly 5,000 Indians most of whom came to South Africa under the Indentured Labour Scheme and are now too old to work visit the Protector of Indian Immigrants to be paid pensions which keep them from want.

This picture shows Indians being paid their allowances, those who are illiterate "making their mark" with their thumbs. They also receive maintenance grants, disability grants and family allowances.

Though there are hundreds of Indian general dealers, Indians, particularly the poorer class, queue up in their thousands at the State-aided mobile food depots which supply considerable quantities of foodstuffs to all races at the lowest prices.

This weekly scheme, inaugurated during the war to combat serious shortages of necessary foodstuffs, sells such items as sugar, soap, condensed milk, margarine, tea and mealie rice to all sections of the population without discrimination. The State, with its 51 depots in Durban alone, ensures that vital foodstuffs are made available to all races.

In this picture, an Indian mother leaves the mobile van loaded up with her weekly purchases.

A crowd of Indians in the Springfield district of Durban awaiting their turn during the visit of the mobile food vans and the mobile health clinic. In the background are homes for Indians which have been built—as for all races—to eliminate slums.

Thousands of Durban Indians sank their racial differences when Hindu, Christian, Gujera and Parsee united in prayer meetings to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi after his assassinatio The picture shows part of the vast throng that congregated at Nicol Square, Durban, when a meetin was held.

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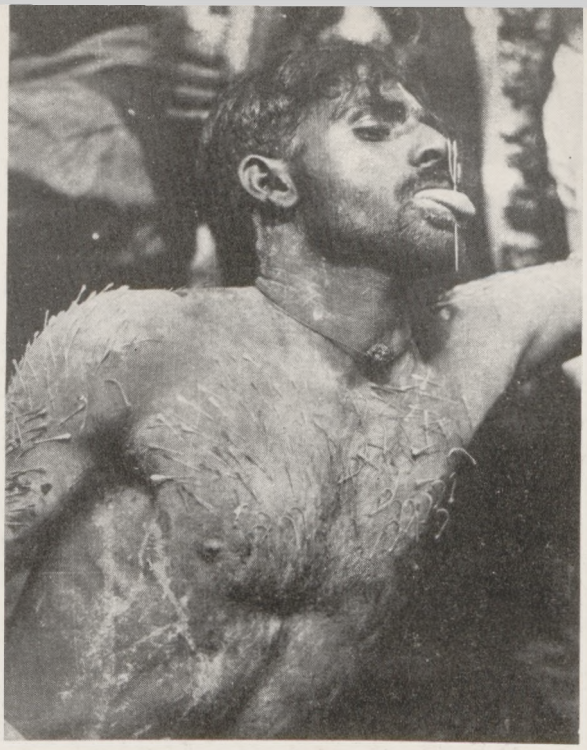


Indians practise their religious rites and ceremonies without hindrance. With silver skewer through his tongue and hooks in the flesh of his back and chest, this Hindu devotee has worked himself into a stage of religious ecstasy.

Freedom of Worship

There is full freedom of worship in South Africa for all religious denominations. Of the Indians in South Africa there are 179,209 Hindus, 60,954 Mohamedans and 45,097 of other religions.

All mosques and temples in Durban are exempted from municipal rates and taxes.

An Indian devotee being prepared for one of the colourful firewalking ceremonies seen in Durban and elsewhere every year.

Hundreds of Indians attend this temple situated in spacious grounds opposite Durban's airport. Here some are seen leaving the temple after attending prayers.

St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Centenary Road, Durban, situated in a thickly populated Indian area and close to secondary and primary schools is well attended by Indians.

Mosques are to be found in all parts of South Africa where Moslems live. This £10,000 *building at Verulam, Natal, is nearing completion.*

More religious facilities for the considerable Hindu population in Durban.

Thousands of Indians are among this big crowd watching a horse race meeting.

Recreation and Pastimes

Indians are fond of their sport. They are keen fans ; football and cricket are popular ; and they have their tennis and golf enthusiasts.

Headquarters of their sporting activities in Durban are at Currie's Fountain—later to be moved to a large area at Argyle Road ; but, just as Europeans, Coloureds and Natives are experiencing difficulty in meeting all their sporting requirements, so are Indians anxious to be provided with more facilities.

Indians are keen students of horse-racing form. In the picture above an Indian, among a group of Europeans, is watching the parade of horses before placing his bet.

Below, successful backers at a meeting of Clairwood Turf Club queue up to be paid out their winnings.

Close to the sea front and with beach skyscrapers in the background, this considerable area i Durban is being reclaimed for an extensive and well-equipped sports centre for Indians.

New Sports Centre

When the new Argyle Road sports ground is ready, the Currie' Fountain sports fields are to be transformed into a major educational centr Currie's Fountain land, which belongs to the Durban City Council, has bee donated to a number of educational institutions catering for Indians.

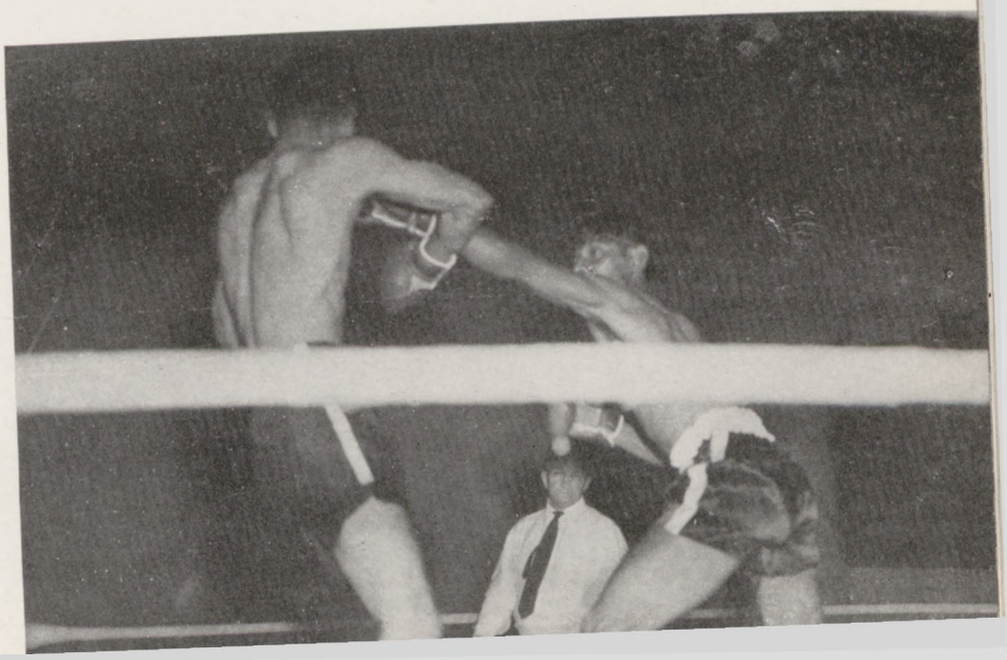
It is proposed that the City Council should give the Indian Sport Grounds Association a grant of £31,563 and a loan of £30,000 on the same term as money is loaned to all races. This sports ground, in the centre of th City, will be as modern and as spacious as any in South Africa.

Apart from large areas for sports fields, a grandstand costing £17,00 is to be built.

Among the trees can be seen community centre and recreati hall provided by the Tongaat Su Estate in Natal. This is part the township recently built for n European employees on the Estate

Football matches are arranged and played by Indians with great enthusiasm before large crowds. Here, at Currie's Fountain, a Cup final game is in progress.

During week-ends many enthusiasts take part in golfing contests. They follow the championships overseas keenly and have named their local champion, seen in action here, "the Indian Sam Snead."



Boxing is a favourite sport among Natal Indians and they often hold big contests in the Durban City Hall, where many Europeans come to see the sport.

Tennis is becoming increasingly popular among Indians and school girls in particular are as fond of the recreation as they are of basketball.

The Avalon Theatre, in the heart of Durban, is among a number of Indian-owned cinemas run by Indians for Indians. It is well patronized, and Indian meetings of importance are often held there.

Entertainment

Indians have established a chain of theatres in various parts of the Union. In many of them Indian films are shown and the actors and actresses are Indians.

Stanger, with its big Indian population, also has its places of entertainment. Here an Indian reads about the next Indian film to be shown.

Indians, like all races, enjoy the thrills of Playland. These Indians are experiencing the fun of miniature cars.

Another scene at a Fun Fair at Clairwood, near Durban, where Indians are prominent in enjoying the thrills.

Indians enjoy a delightful stretch of beach front at Durban and in favourable weather gather there in great numbers swimming in the surf and frolicking on the sands. A large scheme to provide shark-proof safety bathing enclosures and improved facilities on the beaches will benefit Europeans, Indians, Coloured and Natives.

In the picture above, Indian lifesavers are practising, while below happy Indian men and children are relaxing on the sands in full view of the line of skyscraper hotels fringing the Marine Parade.

Union's Increasing Indian Population

Official Government Census returns reveal that in the 10 years from 1936 to 1946 the population in South Africa increased as follows :

Europeans : by 18 per cent. to 2,372,690.
Indians : by 29 per cent. to 285,260.
Natives : by 18 per cent. to 7,805,515.

In Natal, the focal point of the Indian population, Indians totalled 232,317 against 236,697 Europeans. Durban, the largest City in the province has 128,217 Europeans and 120,241 Indians. From these populations, in July, 1948, 485 Indian and 273 European children were born in Durban.

Records show that Indians, besides having considerable numbers in the main towns of Natal, exceed Europeans in 23 centres.

South Africa's Indian population would have been still greater but for two schemes of repatriation under which 11,487 Indians left the Union voluntarily up to 1926 and 17,542 as a result of the Capetown Agreement of 1927.

The first five years experimental period of the Capetown Agreement proved unsuccessful. According to the Indians the emigrants suffered untold misery in India and their experiences did not encourage other Indians to follow their example. Indians of Natal conducted a vigorous campaign against repatriation.

Religious Sects

	TRANSVAAL	CAPE	NATAL	O.F.S.
Hindus	11,942	3,460	163,804	3
Mohamedans	20,465	7,387	33,102	Nil
Other Religions	5,351	4,327	35,411	8
Totals	37,758	15,174	232,317	11

Indian Incomes

INCOME GROUP	TRANSVAAL	CAPE	NATAL	O.F.S.	TOTAL
£0 (Women and Children)	26,737	9,581	175,534	7	211,859
Under £50	976	504	12,714	1	14,195
£50–99	1,071	733	17,434	—	19,238
£100–149	2,054	1,123	11,397	1	14,575
£150–199	1,630	805	4,919	1	7,355
£200–249	1,429	610	2,713	1	4,753
£250–299	863	312	1,169	—	4,344
£300–349	647	274	925	—	1,846
£350–399	368	143	433	—	944
£400–499	396	155	473	—	1,024
£500–599	269	111	210	—	590
£600–799	246	290	172	—	708
£800–999	155	65	124	—	344
£1,000–1,999	256	73	215	—	544
£2,000–2,999	50	13	46	—	109
£3,000–3,999	17	—	17	—	34
£4,000–4,999	4	—	10	—	14
£5,000 and over	13	1	7	—	21
Unclassified	577	559	3,805	—	4,941

MAYFA
DAVID MAYFAIR

SELDOM, if ever, has a people advanced so far in so short a time, from such depths of want, illiteracy, physical and spiritual degradation, to such heights of plenty, liberty and opportunity.

EVEN now they have not yet reached the limits of their ascent; opportunities to advance even higher in health, wealth and culture are open to them in a young, vigorous and growing country to an extent which would hardly be surpassed in any country in the world.

IT is doubtful whether a more striking contrast could be found than that which lies between the Indians who originally came to South Africa and their succeeding generations.

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